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14 July 1953

Executive Registry

4-3389

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: President's Proposed Plan to Institute a Food Program for the Satellites Similar to the Current Program for East Germany.

REFERENCE: Memorandum, dated 11 July 1953, from C. D. Jackson to Members of the Board of PSB.

1. At the meeting on 13 July of the coordinating committee for the implementation of PSB D-45 (NSC 158), the subject was discussed, and while there was a fairly even difference of opinion amongst the members, the following recommendations and opinions of the committee will be passed by the chairman, Mr. O'Connor, to Mr. Jackson for discussion at the PSB luncheon meeting on 15 July:

a. If the offer is made, it should not include items about to be harvested in these countries, but rather should be limited to those items which are known to be in short supply, e.g., fats, oils, sugars, potatoes.

b. Rather than risk a possible backfire, due to the fact that it will follow so closely the rejection of the East German offer, the offer should not be made formally but rather as a statement at the President's press conference. This statement should point out that the original offer to the East Germans was made in conformity with the great humanitarian principles of the U.S., and the food is still available not only for the East Germans, but also for the Poles, Czechs, Hungarians, and other hungry and oppressed people.

c. While such an offer to the satellites at this time has definite positive value, it is complicated by the fact that it follows so closely on the East German offer and its rejection, as well as proximity to the harvest in these countries. It was suggested that due to some of the above considerations it might be more advantageous to postpone the offer until sometime late this fall or early next year when the harvest will probably have been consumed, the shortages listed above will be more critical and the impact to be achieved would probably be greater.

2. While Albania had not been included for consideration in Mr. Jackson's note, it was recommended that it be added to this target list due to the fact that it has no contiguous borders with the USSR or the satellites and, consequently, presents itself physically as a prime target for exploitation of this kind.

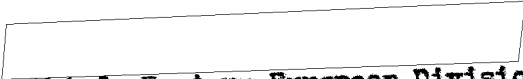
3. Attached as Appendix A is a brief of a report prepared by ORR on the "Extent and Effects of 1952 Crop Failures in Eastern Europe".

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4. Attached as Appendix B is a crash estimate of the food situation in the satellite countries prepared by RQM/OIS.


Acting Chief, Eastern European Division

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Attachments:

Appendix A
Appendix B

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ORIGINAL DOCUMENT MISSING PAGE(S):

Attachments Missing

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